

Message Text

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47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 301025 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4157

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 1842

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, MY

SUBJECT: ROK/ MALAYSIAN RELATIONS

REF: SEOUL 2631

SUMMARY: KOREAN AMBASSADOR HAS REVIEWED FOR ME EVENTS OF PAST WEEKEND, CONFIRMING SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL, AND ALSO FACT THAT GOM AMBASSADOR TO SEOUL HAS ARRIVED BACK IN KUALA LUMPUR. KOREAN AMBASSADOR HAS SEEN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ISMAIL AND BELIEVES THAT ISMAIL WILL SEEK TO PERSUADE RAZAK TO DELAY ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA. GOM AMBASSADOR TO SEOUL WILL SUPPORT ISMAIL' S ACTION. END SUMMARY.

1. KOREAN AMBASSADOR, IN SESSIONS APRIL 27 AND 28 WITH MFA SECGEN ZAITON AND DEP SECGEN HASHIM SULTAN, PRESENTED TEXT OF PERSONAL LETTER FROM PRESIDENT PARK TO PM RAZAK TOGETHER WITH AMBASSADOR' S URGENT REQUEST FOR PERSONAL MEETING WITH RAZAK. BOTH ZAITON AND HASHIM ATTEMPTED DISSUADE AMBASSADOR FROM PERSONAL MEETING WITH RAZAK BUT IN VIEW OF AMBASSADOR' S PERSISTENCE, PROMISED TO ARRANGE MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. FIRST BREAK IN WHAT KOREAN AMBASSADOR CONSIDERED INFLEXIBLE ATTITUDE OF GOM ON SUBJECT OF NORTH KOREAN RECOGNITION WAS MEETING AMBASSADOR HAD WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ISMAIL APRIL 28. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED SEQUENCE OF EVENTS LEADING TO PRESENT SITUATION, STRESSING WHAT HE CONSIDERED AT LEAST BAD FAITH ON PART OF MFA IN FAILING TO PROVIDE ANY INDICATION
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OF GOM INTENTIONS REGARDING RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA PRIOR

TO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT AT TIME OF VISIT OF ROK SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. AMBASSADOR REMINDED ISMAIL OF ASSURANCES PRESENTED TO HIM BOTH BY PM RAZAK AND SEC GEN ZAITON AT TIME HE PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS 18 MONTHS AGO THAT GOM WOULD DO NOTHING TO ENCOURAGE NORTH KOREANS OR DISRUPT RELATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA. AMBASSADOR THEN READ FOR ISMAIL INSTRUCTIONS HE HAD RECEIVED FROM SEOUL WHICH IN EFFECT THREATENED AT LEAST SUSPENSION OF RELATIONS WITH GOM IF GOM PROCEEDED WITH RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA.

3. AMBASSADOR CLAIMED ISMAIL WAS SYMPATHETIC AND ISMAIL PROMISED TO TAKE UP SUBJECT WITH PM RAZAK TODAY. ISMAIL WILL INFORM KOREAN AMBASSADOR AS TO OUTCOME OF HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH RAZAK.

4. GOM AMBASSADOR IN SEOUL WILL ALSO SEE RAZAK TODAY AND ACCORDING TO KOREAN AMBASSADOR WILL PRESENT MOST FORCEFUL CASE FOR DEFERMENT OF NORTH KOREAN RECOGNITION UNTIL AFTER UNGA.

5. KOREAN AMBASSADOR BELIEVES OUR REPRESENTATIONS REPORTED KUALA LUMPUR 1721 SUFFICIENT FOR TIME BEING PENDING OUTCOME OF ISMAIL' S MEETING WITH RAZAK TODAY.

LYDMAN

NOTE BY OCT: EXDIS ADDED PER MR. WRIGHT S/ S- O.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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